

## OVERVIEW

The fundamental principle underlying the provision of shelter home services is to provide a safe, temporary home which promotes and prepares children to move to their planned placement.

A transitional placement program (TPP) shelter home is a family like placement as an alternative to placement in a shelter facility. A child may remain in a TPP shelter home for up to 14 days, with an option to extend up to a total of 45 days. The purpose of the TPP shelter home is to provide a family like placement while more permanent placement options are researched and identified. TPP shelter home families enter into a contract with the department, which obligates them to take placements 24 hours a day, seven days a week, when it meets the terms of their contract.

A child may be placed in the TPP shelter home any hour of the day or night with little or no information other than a court order. The child will remain in the home just long enough to allow the supervising agency time to adequately plan for the child, which could be completed in a matter of hours or days.

## APPROPRIATE SHELTER HOME PLACEMENTS

Shelter homes or TPP homes are used primarily for children who cannot remain in their own home.

**Note:** Shelter homes are not appropriate for delinquent youth that meet the definition of an adult inmate; see [JJM 410, Placement Selection and Standards](#) for the definition of adult inmate.

Appropriate shelter home placements include:

- Children who come to the court or to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' (MDHHS) attention in an emergency or crisis situation and whose needs are unknown. The home serves as not only a place for care but also as an evaluative setting.
- Children who, despite having a record of truancy, have been assessed as running from an unhealthy situation. An example of this situation would be the child who is running to escape being beaten or physically abused at home.
- Children who are not an extreme truancy threat.

- Children who are not explosive or physically and sexually violent.

**TRANSITIONAL  
PLACEMENTS**

Transitional placements are to be used for immediate placement of abuse or neglect wards and for delinquent children who are not being detained but are temporarily without lodging. This placement can be used only until an appropriate placement is located and in no longer than the time limits stated below.

**PLACEMENT  
LIMITATIONS**

Placements should not be made for more than 14 days in a TPP home. If a placement must last longer than 14 days, written approval must be granted by both the county director responsible for the case and the TPP home license. Exceptions can be made for up to 30 days. No TPP placement should be made for longer than 45 total days.

See [FOM 722-03, Placement Selection and Standards](#), for time limits and number of allowable placements in a family shelter home.

**POLICY CONTACT**

Questions about this policy item may be directed to the [MDHHS TPP Mailbox \(MDHHS-TPP@michigan.gov\)](#).